



## ALAMEDA COUNTY CONGESTION MANAGEMENT AGENCY

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### ***Transportation Update***

***September 2006***

#### **New Chair and Vice Chair Elected**

At its September meeting, the CMA Board elected Supervisor Scott Haggerty as the new Chair and Mayor Mark Green as vice Chair. Both are long standing members of the CMA Board, with Supervisor Haggerty serving the last two years as vice Chair and Mayor Green serving on the Plans & Programs Committee.

#### **MTC Adopts Transportation for Livable Communities Program**

At its September meeting, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission adopted the regional component of the Transportation for Livable Communities program. Of the \$16.7 million awarded throughout the region, four projects in Alameda County totaling \$6.7 million received funding:

- ❑ Ashby BART Station/Ed Roberts Campus, Berkeley -- \$2 million
- ❑ Bay Street Streetscape Project, Fremont -- \$1.57 million
- ❑ Downtown Livermore Pedestrian Transit Connections -- \$1.2 million
- ❑ West Oakland Seventh Street Transit Village Streetscape -- \$1.9 million

#### **State Infrastructure Bond Update**

As outlined in past newsletters, the Legislature and the Governor have placed four infrastructure improvement bond measures on the November ballot. The \$20 billion transportation component includes several competitive programs. The \$4.5 billion Corridor Mobility program has a very tight schedule. The law requires the California Transportation Commission to adopt guidelines by December 1, 2006; regional agencies and Caltrans have until January 15, 2007 to submit candidate projects; and the CTC

must adopt an initial program by March 1, 2007.

The CTC released draft guidelines for the Corridor Mobility program on September 29, 2006. These draft guidelines will be discussed at its October 11/12 meeting in Sonoma County. Final guidelines will be adopted at its November 8/9 meeting, if the bonds are approved by the voters.

#### **Legislation**

AB 2444 (Klehs) – This bill would authorize the congestion management agencies in the Bay Area, by a 2/3 vote, to impose an annual fee of up to \$5 per registered vehicle for transportation projects and programs. The bill would also authorize the Air District to impose an annual fee of up to \$5 per registered vehicle to mitigate the environmental impacts of motor vehicles. The proceeds of this fee would be distributed to the Air District and the Water Quality Control Board. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. In his veto message, the Governor stated his support for imposing a fee to fund congestion mitigation projects if the fees are approved by the voters. Unlike the prior year's veto message that demanded a 2/3 vote, the Governor will likely support imposing a vehicle registration fee with a majority vote. Governor Schwarzenegger encouraged the Legislature to reconsider this proposal again next year.

AB 2538 (Wolk) – This bill would stabilize the revenue stream used by transportation agencies, such as the CMA, for project planning, programming and monitoring. The Governor has signed this bill into law. AB 573 (Wolk) – This bill would restrict the ability of public agencies to require

indemnification in design professional contracts. The Governor has signed this bill into law.

**AB 1020 (Hancock)** -- This bill would require the CTC to develop guidelines for travel demand models used in preparing regional transportation plans. The Governor vetoed AB 1020 due to concerns that it would “impose costly and unnecessary requirements upon the California Transportation Commission (CTC), the Department of Transportation (Department) and regional transportation planning agencies (RTPAs).” In addition, the Governor stated that, “My administration is already moving forward with a comprehensive approach to integrating land use and transportation planning through the Strategic Growth Plan that I proposed earlier this year.”

**AB 2295 (Arambula)** – This bill would clarify that local road rehabilitation projects are eligible for funding through the STIP process. This bill would basically place in statute existing CTC policy of allowing STIP funds to be used for rehabilitation projects. The Governor vetoed this bill stating “codifying this category of projects as eligible for STIP funding is both unnecessary and also reduces the CTC’s ability to modify its guidelines to reflect future changes in available funding and transportation policy.”

**AB 2600 (Lieu)** – This bill extends from January 1, 2008 to January 1, 2013 the authorization for drivers of electric and compressed natural gas vehicles to use HOV lanes as solo drivers. During the final days of session, AB 2600 was amended to extend the authorization for single occupant hybrid vehicles to use HOV lanes to January 1, 2011, and at the request of the Governor’s office to increase the cap on hybrid vehicle decals from 75,000 to 85,000. This action contradicts Caltrans’ initial finding that recommended that no additional decals be issued given the increased demand for HOV lanes resulting from high fuel costs. The Governor has signed this bill into law.

## Deadlines to Note

State Infrastructure Bonds (Corridor Mobility program -- \$4.5 billion statewide)

Action by voters.....November 7, 2006  
CTC adopts guidelines.....November 9, 2006  
CMA adopts Alameda list...November 30, 2006  
Project lists due to MTC.....December 1, 2006  
Caltrans/regions submittals...January 15, 2007  
CTC adopts program.....February 28, 2007

Combined Measure B Bicycle-Pedestrian Program, Regional Bicycle-Pedestrian Program & TFCA Eligible Projects (\$9 million)

Call for Projects Oct 2006  
Deadline for Project Submittals Dec 2006  
Draft Program Feb 2007  
Final Program Mar 2007

## Upcoming Meetings

|          |       |  |
|----------|-------|--|
| October  | 3     | CMA Technical Advisory Committee           |
|          | 9     | CMA Administration & Legislation Committee |
|          | 9     | CMA Plans & Programs Committee             |
|          | 11/12 | CTC (Sonoma)                               |
|          | 20    | I-680 Smart Lane JPA                       |
|          | 26    | CMA Board Meeting                          |
| November | 7     | CMA Technical Advisory Committee           |
|          | 8/9   | CTC (Amador)                               |
|          | 13    | CMA Administration & Legislation Committee |
|          | 13    | CMA Plans & Programs Committee             |
|          | 30    | CMA Board Meeting                          |

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